GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1728
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
EXPORT OF POLISHED DIAMONDS
Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal;Rana Shri Kashi Ram

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facilities for exporting polished diamonds are not available at Surat and consequently people have to export diamonds from Mumbai;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to facilitate exports of polished diamonds from Surat;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up a Special Economic Zone in Surat to facilitate the same; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a) & b): No, Sir. Facilities of export of cut and polished diamonds are available at Surat in Surat Hira Bourse and there is an apprising officer from the Department of Revenue at the Surat Hira Bourse to facilitate import and export. Besides, export of cut and polished diamonds also takes place from the Special Economic Zone in Surat.

c) & d): Special Economic Zones(SEZs) are set up in the private sector or jointly with the State Governments or by the State Governments and its agencies. In Surat, there is an existing private sector SEZ, which was established in the year 1994, as an Export Processing Zone and subsequently converted as Special Economic Zone(SEZ).